



THE LONG SINEWY EFFECT WITH RUFFLED SKIRT.

ELLEN OSBORN'S FASHION LETTER

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—Fashions are as uncertain as the stock market. On one thing only will the prophet stake her fame. The swathing skirt will prove truly *à la mode*. It will last until the incoming of the year 1900.

In the simple days of spring and fall openings fashions changed but twice a year. Now that luxury and undue extravagance have provoked the bringing forward of cottons in January and velvets and furs in August, we have a continued evolution of styles week by week throughout the season. That the adoption of the modes of the Empire must prove the next radical departure, every one who knows the laws of clothesland has been aware since last winter. Precisely on what date feminine anatomy will undergo a short-waisted transformation no one even yet would commit himself to proclaim.

Empire hats and Empire evening gowns we had in the spring. Empire cloaks, high-girdled under the arms, dominate September's importations. Nevertheless the autumn tailor dress abnegates not the long-waisted, tight upon the hips, with perhaps a thought more spread from the knee line outward, but lying on the floor in a train of great dimensions. Smoky gray, not brown, gleaming copper, bronze yellow or dashing "mauve" red are the tailor gown's colors; dull and brilliant as the moods of autumn. Rough as the ways of virtue, yet silky soft as swan's down are its materials. Heavy cashmires follow every line of the body. Shaggy camel's hairs bristling with fur, out has held it in embrace as lover-like and warm.

THE MOST NOVEL

The most novel of the autumn stuffs are ring-streathed and spotted. Piel with dots are rough cloths and smooth cloths, satins and velvets; dots transparent, through which a silk lining may glimmer with stealthy seductiveness; dots shining and damask-checked, as if the Trojan Paris had flung showers of golden apples at the dress of beauty; dots long-haired and grotesque, making bunkers on the fair creases.

Cross-hatched and streaked with blue and yellow are lustreless had-gray fabrics. Dark, rich Egyptian zebra are banded broadly with plum purple or black or gray-green. Pale gaze color is barred and spotted with amber and blue and gold.

For the making, you may have the simple, graceful, perfectly hung tailor skirt entirely plain, as in days of old, on condition only of sticking to unpatterned weaves. The cross-hatched and dotted fabrics demand a long tunic or a princess robe backed upon a shamed undergarment of clothesland is more inflexible than that

which decries the contrasting of fine, satin-finished cloths with the hairy, shaggy novelties.

The tunic is slashed recklessly in deep points that come, sometimes, almost to the waist line, and that gape as if the robe were too narrow—as often it is—to allow for the spreading of the underdrapes. It is trimmed with stitching, or, if with braid, that is set on more simply than in the summer and fastened with visible stitching.

The bodice of the new tailor dress has a deep yoke, and its shoulders are arranged, not to give the sloping, Trelawney effect, but, like the yoke, to increase too, the length of the upper lines of the body. If the dress is made with a coat, that has two big revers faced with white moire silk and folding back away from the shoulders. The neck finish is the usual garate collar and a fluffy mass of bright-colored silk and chiffon.

MISS GRANT'S GOWN

One of the few costumes made in New York for Miss Julia Dent Grant to add to her Paris-bought trousseau is a tailor gown of tea-colored cloth, whose skirt has its pleats at the back brought up to within a few inches of the waist and then stitched flat, giving a graceful line and just an indication of fulness. The hem and the seams of both sides of the front are stitched, the seam in the middle of the back also. The odd Eton coat has big revers decorated with sprays of fine lace applique, and is edged all about with rich white armure ribbon, from under which peeps a narrow white silk fringe. Miss Grant's success at Newport might have been more marked, by the way; and the alliance with the "black prince," as Canticuzene is called, might be more popular.

Another dress for Miss Grant has a long, tight tunic of beetle-green cloth, finished with close-set rows of scarlet stitching. The underskirt of dark green silk shows prominently in front, scarcely at all behind. The tunic fastens on the left with large enamel buttons and is low cut over a yoke of silk to match the skirt. Bands of multi-colored, oriental embroidery deck the tops of the sleeves. Pseudo tailor dresses of velvet embroidered with designs in lace and worn with redingote tunics are ready for the weather. A rich costume of this order has the velvet skirt of warm current red relieved by sprawling lace flowers. The plain redingote is of reddish, cedar-brown cloth, turning back over a vest of lace and velvet.

"SNAP-SHOOTERS" AT WORK. A tailor dress recently worn by Mrs. George Vanderbilt served incidentally to illustrate the usefulness of the professional "snap-shooters" employed by the New York newspapers. One of this guild, ob-

serving a parade of fashionables, had his attention called to a lady in a wonderful aggregation of ruffles and ruffles. "Nope," he said; don't know who she is, but don't want her. Only folks who have no chance to show off clothes in the house wear that sort of rig outdoors."

A minute later at the approach of a plainly garbed lady, he exclaimed, in the midst of a rapid fire, "There now, there's one! Don't know who she is either, but I'll find out. Got to have her. She's the real thing."

"The real thing" was George Vanderbilt's vivacious, handsome bride in a simple but perfectly cut tailor dress of pastel blue cloth, designed after a graceful Princess model, but, except for a touch of black at the throat, absolutely without decoration.

Even more markedly than costumes of other varieties the automobile dress is in the throes of evolution. A pretty chauffeur, who is often seen on Fifth avenue tools her horseless trap in a tailor dress of buff kid cloth, stitched, but not obtrusively, with red. The cape that is draped over the seat behind her is of rough, soft buff and red crossbars; it fastens by means of a clasp of the dull, whitish metal called Celtic silver.

The boater and the Eton coat are in high favor for return, as well as the box coat and the Empire long cloaks and capes of every length and description. In wraps indeed one is allowed to be altogether eclectic. The richest and most extravagant of all wraps are the ulsters and capes of fur or brocade with sweeping trains. One of the richest of the Empire ulsters is of black velvet, and has its high collar, its big revers, its towering collar and its tiny shoulder capes incrustated with cream lace. Its sleeves are tight and small, fitting into lace cuffs. Rows of lace insertion run down the seams.

The box coat with pockets by the dozen is a boon for driving, and for "sporty" uses. That without modification women will adopt it for general wear is just believing. The most likely change in it is the addition of a belt to do away with its clumsy fullness; this belt, as in case of the Empire cloaks, will fasten just under the arms.

BEAVER IN FASHION

Beaver, long on fashion's retired list, has been called into active service, as one of the new furs. Empire ulsters will be made of it, as well as coats and capes of many varieties. A beaver cape of a type that promises to be popular is composed of two wide, falling boucles of fur, bordered with cream lace laid upon satin. Beaver is not rich enough in color, however, to run the race expected of it against sable or seal.

Autumn and early winter hats come in spotted and plaid materials to match the tailor gown. It is the proper thing, if your pet walking dress shows blue and mulberry crossbars on Egyptian red, to have a toque built to order of the same stuff, and to trim it with ribbons matching the plain flounce of your underskirt, adding a huge flower or buckles and quills. Large felt hats come with boucles of velvet in contrasting colors, but the crowning triumphs of millinery are felt hats spangled with dots in velvet or satin. Quill-sticks are ring-streathed and spotted, and millinery birds are ornithological curiosities with four or even six wings, usual process, and are several times larger than nature designed. Silk and velvet roses bigger than the biggest rose remind one of the frog that tried to be an ox; they burst with happiness. Novelties that will have something of a run are black velvet toques trimmed solely with autumn leaves.

Empire dresses, I have said, are not yet in evidence, except for evening wear. One imported for the season is a pink satin skirt with a short train. This is ornamented with narrow, white tulle ruffles above the bottom and creasing above in squares. A long tunic of white, Empire tulle falls from below the arms, ending in a deep embroidered border of roses. A scarf of yellow satin ribbon is crossed "en diagon" over the bust confining the slight figure. Fringes of black velvet are thrown over the shoulders, while a drape of cream tulle loosely encircles the arms, leaving the shoulders exposed. No Empire dress, it must be said, can be as graceful with a tulle as when only a "silk skirt" is employed.

ELLEN OSBORN.

With the Crickets.

(For The Times.)

Sweet the air and soft the zephyr
In the calm October morn;
Fair the trumpet morning glory
Creeping up the stately corn.

Here at evening's stilly hour
As through ripening grain you pass
You may hear the cricket's chirping
In the long and tangled grass.

Through the night their vigil's keeping
While the drowsy beetles sleep,
Till the rosy rays of morning
Through the rustling corn leaves peep.

'Tis the signal of the coming
Of the autumn, brown and serene,
When the golden shafts of sunshine
Gild the fruitlets of the year.

Hallowed spot and hallowed season!
Nod the spell ye for me wield,
Since my darling is asleeping
In the fadder-scented field.

Sleeping there all in the silence!
Sleeping while the years shall pass;
And my heart its vigil's keeping
With the crickets in the grass.

N. J. W. LE CATO.

To prevent the passage of fish into race-way without obstructing the water a new device has a paddle-wheel adapted to be revolved by the current, imparting motion to a tubular screen obstructing the passage and revolving in an opposite direction to drive the fish back.

Raggage trucks are made to automatically weigh trucks by a new scale attachment, having the foot bar suspended on a coiled spring, which is stretched by the weight of the trunk, a rod being also attached to the bar to move an arrow on the indicating dial.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Services Resumed Earlier Than Usual This Season.

MANY ENGLISH MINISTERS.

Rev. William A. Watson, of England to Succeed Dr. John Hall—The Unitarian Church and Expansion, Growth of Missions in Japan

Activity in churches west and east has been resumed after vacation this year at least two weeks earlier than usual. This is in part due to the two international meetings of ministers in Boston and Washington and the necessity of pastors to return home to prepare for them. The fact that recipients are to be tendered in Philadelphia and New York took the

majority of the foreign delegates to the Pan-Presbyterian Council in Washington came from Scotland. This is to be expected, since the Presbyterian church in England is quite weak. General Secretary Matthews of the Eastern Section of the Alliance, arrived well in advance, and almost all of the delegates are in this country, partly to go to Niagara Falls, for no Englishman thinks of coming to America without going to the Falls, and partly to see a little of the country. Immediately after the Council they say they must return to take up the year's work in their churches.

ENGLISH PREACHERS.

Boston is making great preparations to entertain the two hundred British Congregationalists who are coming to the International Council. Almost every Protestant pulpit in that city will have a foreign occupant on the Sunday intervening the Council. The delegates who are coming represent the very forefront of Congregationalism in England. Most of the delegates are already here, coming early for the same reason that the Presbyterians have, to see something of the country, visit the Falls, and be ready to return immediately to the Council adjournment.

Receptions almost without number are planned by Boston, and it is possible some of them may be assisted by New York Congregationalists to see the yacht race. All who have been seen are wonderfully confident that the Shamrock will carry home the cup. To tell the truth, there are a good many Americans who would



A SKIRT OF LADIES CLOTH TRIMMED WITH A CONTRASTING COLOR AND FINISHED WITH NARROW BRAID.

ministers of these cities have. The general clearing out from the eastern resorts affected the Chicago, St. Louis and other ministers, and the result is a general suspension of church services almost with the advent of the current month. A

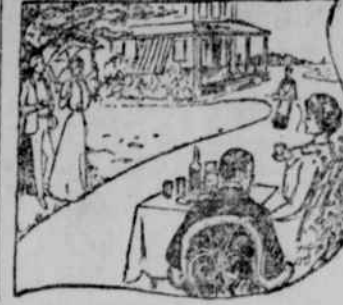
not be sorry to see her do so—to make things interesting and provide more sport in winning it back again. These Councils are without legislative authority, and are made up of a large element of the social. They are, however, not without their influence in denominational government and direction.

Apartment from the foreign visitors to these Councils, there are just now in this country a very large number of British clergymen. They are not confined to Presbyterians and Congregationalists, but include Baptists, Methodists and Church of England ministers. These are accompanied for the most part by their wives and sisters, and they come, so they say, because they have been, of late, hearing so much about the United States that they make use of their vacations to see a little of it. Almost all of them go to Niagara Falls, and a considerable number go to Chicago. Some get to Newport. They report the controversy in the Church of England as likely to settle down by the acquiescence of the ritual party. Among their number is the Principal of the Free Church College, Aberdeen, the Moderator of the Irish Presbyterian General Assembly, the Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland General Assembly, the Dean of Salisbury Cathedral, the Principal of Mansfield College, an officer in the British Museum, about a dozen members of Parliament who are prominent in church affairs, and pastors and rectors of churches in Aberdeen, Belfast, Dublin, Manchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Nottingham, New Castle on Tyne, Birmingham, Salisbury, Leeds, London and many smaller English, Welsh and Scottish cities. This country has never before been visited by anything like so many foreign clergymen at one time, and that apart from any meetings. They say Admiral Dewey's victory did it.

TO SUCCEED REV. JOHN HALL. The public should be prepared to hear of the call of the Rev. William A. Watson to the pastorate of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, New York, as successor to the late Rev. Dr. John Hall. The Rev. Mr. Watson comes from Birkenhead, England, as delegate from the Presbyterian Church of England to the Pan-Presbyterian Council at Washington. He is preaching at the Fifth Avenue church, and is known to have pleased such members of that congregation as have returned to the city better than any man since the late pastor's death. The Rev. Mr. Watson comes from the United Presbyterian church of Scotland and is Scotch by birth. He is thirty-eight years of age, and unquestionably a great pulpit orator and evangelist. He has, like the

S. ULLMAN'S SON

Supper on the Lawn



is a luxury not to be enjoyed very long, but your meal will taste just as good indoors if you prepare it from our choice canned meats, fish, lobster, crabs, or salmon. Our delicious poiled meats make an appetizing meal. Our goods are fresh and of this season's canning. Try one of our old Smithfield Hams. 12 1-2 lb. Try our Mountain Roll Butter, 15c a pound.

Try our celebrated Eagle Coffee. It's superior to any 20c coffee on the market, Two pounds for 25c.

Best Sugar-Cured Hams, 12c pound.

St. Julien Claret Wine, imported, 25c bottle.

Pickling Spices, 20c lb.

Imported Macaroni and Spaghetti, 4 lbs. for 25c.

Imported Sherry and Port Wine, 35c bottle.

Bushel sacks Fine Dairy Salt, 40c

Large glasses Mixed Mustard, 5c

Cedar Tubs, 50c.

Economy Coffee, roasted, 1-lb. papers, 4 for 25c.

Small Sour Pickles, 18c gallon.

1-lb. cans Good Luck Baking Powder, 8c.

1/2-lb. cans Good Luck Baking Powder, 4c.

Fresh Lemon Crackers, 5c lb.

Pure Virginia Comb Honey, 12c lb.

Large, juicy Lemons, 10c dozen.

White A Sugar, 5c lb.

Large Irish Potatoes, 20c peck.

Broiled Mackerel, with tomato sauce, 10c can.

Try our Creamery Butter at 15c lb. It's fine.

Large Fat Mackerel, 3 for 10c.

Root Beer, 5c bottle—makes five gallons.

Whole grain North Carolina Rice, 5c lb.

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3-pound cans Apple Butter, 8c. 3-pound cans Jellies, 10c. Fine Fat Mackerel, 90c kit. Smoked Jowls, 5c a pound. 2 bars large Floating Toilet Soap for 5c.

Dairy Salt, 3 and 5c a bag. Large bottles Shoe Polish, 5c. Corn Starch, 3c package.

Mrs. Johnson's Home-Made Sweet Mixed Pickles, 15c qt., or 50c gal. American Refined Granulated Sugar, 5 1/2c lb.

Try our Snowflake Patent Family Flour, \$4 barrel, or 25c bag. It's fine.

Pure Old Country Cider Vinegar, 20c gallon. Guaranteed to keep pickles.

Reliable Hams, 8c lb. Brooms cheap. 2-string Brooms, 9c; 3-string, 12c.

The best Flour in the world is our Silver King—\$4.35 barrel, or 25c bag.

Mason's Improved Jars—quarts, 40c dozen; half gallons, 50c dozen.

3 lbs. Washing Soda for 5c. 15 bars Special Soap for 25c.

Best Oats, 50c bushel. Best Corn, 45c bushel.